

Iowa State Board of Education Resolution

1st day of August, 2002

WHEREAS, the Iowa State Board of Education strongly believes that the most important natural resource in the State of Iowa is children, and that all children in Iowa should be educated in a safe and secure environment;

WHEREAS, children learn more effectively when they are not distracted by concerns for their physical and emotional safety;

WHEREAS, more effective learning benefits not only the children being educated, but also their families, their local communities and entire state by producing better citizens who are prepared to contribute to their communities in a productive and emotionally healthy manner; and

WHEREAS, it is the direct and joint responsibility of all school administrators, all teachers, all other school staff, all school board members, parents, and community members to ensure that children are safe and secure in their learning environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa State Board of Education calls to action all Iowa school administrators and board members to take the following steps:

1. Immediately, fully, and honestly assess whether their pupils are being provided educational programs and services in a safe and secure learning environment.

- 2. Facilitate dialogues with pupils, parents, and community members to clarify the community expectations for a safe and secure learning environment and to engage all in establishing these expectations so that all pupils can concentrate on learning in an environment that provides physical and emotional security.
- 3. Review the content and implementation of the local board's harassment policy with pupils, parents, and others and make necessary and appropriate changes.
- 4. If deemed necessary provide staff supervision in such areas as hallways and locker rooms.
- 5. Provide in-service training for all staff regarding the need for and importance of a safe and secure learning environment.

SO RESOLVED this 1st day of August, 2002.

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/s/ Gene E. Vincent, President
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- /s/ Sally J. Frudden, Vice President
- /s/ James Billings
- /s/ Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
- /s/ Sr. Jude Fitzpatrick
- /s/ Gregory D. McClain
- /s/ Mary Jean Montgomery
- /s/ Donald L. Roby
- /s/ Kay E. Wagner